

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2020-163-T – ORDER NO. 2020-
_____,2020

IN	Application of Palmetto Interstate)	ORDER GRANTING
RE:	Movers, LLC for a Class E)	CLASS E HOUSEHOLD
	(Household Goods) Certificate of)	GOODS CERTIFICATE
	Public Convenience and Necessity for)	STATEWIDE
	Operation of Motor Vehicle Carrier)	AUTHORITY

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) on the Application of Palmetto Interstate Movers, LLC (“Applicant” or “PIM”) to amend its Class E (Household Goods) Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (“CPC&N”). Applicant seeks a CPC&N with authority to move household goods throughout the state. Notice of this Application was timely published pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Reg. 103-132 on July 22, 2020. No third parties intervened, and a hearing on the Application was held on October 21, 2020.

The parties at the hearing were the Applicant, represented by Charles L.A. Terreni, Esquire and the Office of Regulatory Staff (“ORS”), represented by Jenny R. Pittman, Esquire. The ORS informed the Commission it did not oppose PIM’s Application.

PIM called its President, Dominique Carter as a witness. Mr. Carter is the sole member and organizer of the Applicant.

Mr. Carter is a 2011 graduate of Benedict College. He has been employed as a District Manager for Waffle House since 2013, a job in which he supervises 3 stores, their managers, and about 90 associates. He was previously the Assistant Director of Upward Bound, a pre-college program that helps students from disadvantaged programs prepare for college.

Mr. Carter believes South Carolina's rapid population growth will provide an opportunity for his household goods moving business. Mr. Carter plans to reach customers by advertising in newspapers, social media outlets, and by word of mouth. Applicant is exempt from having a safety rating from the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Mr. Carter also testified that there are no complaints or judgments against him or PIM; he has adequate equipment and facilities to provide moving services and has adequate financial resources. PIM will obtain appropriate insurance, as evidenced by the quotes introduced at the hearing. Applicant certified that it is familiar with and will comply with all applicable statutes and regulations. Mr. Carter testified PIM has purchased a truck and will hire workers after appropriate background checks. Mr. Carter plans to grow the business gradually over the next five years.

Applicant will use the tariff and bill of lading approved in with this application.

On September 4, 2020, Applicant moved to present shipper witness testimony by affidavit. The Commission granted this request by Order No. 2020-

93-H. Applicant offered the shipper witness affidavit testimony of James Haynes. Mr. Haynes, a real estate agent with 6 years of experience in South Carolina testified South Carolina's housing market is strong. Mr. Haynes is frequently asked to recommend movers of household goods, and it can be difficult to find qualified movers who are dependable and experienced. Aff. ¶ 4.

ORS did not prefile testimony but submitted a letter to the Commission on October 20, 2020, stating that ORS "is of the opinion that the Applicant will meet the requirements of fit, willing and able as required of a Household Goods Mover under the provisions of S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-133 (2012)."

The Commission finds PIM has demonstrated that it is fit, willing, and able to operate as a household goods mover under S.C. Code Ann. § 58-23-330 and S.C. Code Reg. 103-133. We also find that the public convenience and necessity is not already being served by existing authorized services. Therefore, PIM's Application for statewide authority should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The Application of Palmetto Interstate Movers, LLC for a Class E (Household Goods) Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity is approved for the Applicant to transport household goods to points and places throughout the state.
2. The final Tariff and Bill of Lading are approved and attached hereto as Order Exhibit 1.

3. The Applicant shall file with the Office of Regulatory Staff the proper insurance, safety rating, and other information required by S.C. Code Ann. § 58-23-10 *et. seq.*, as amended, and by S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-100 through 103-241 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations for Motor Carriers, and S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 38-400 through 38-503 of the Department of Public Safety's Rules and Regulations for Motor Carriers, as amended, within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order, or within such additional time as may be authorized by the Commission.

4. Upon compliance with S. C. Code Section 58-23-10 *et seq.*, and the applicable regulations for Motor Carriers, a Certificate will be issued by the Office of Regulatory Staff authorizing the motor carrier services granted herein.

5. The motor carrier's services authorized by this Order will not be provided prior to compliance with the above-referenced requirements and receipt of a Certificate.

6. Failure of the Applicant to either 1) complete the certification process by complying with the Office of Regulatory Staff requirements within ninety (90) days of this Order, or 2) to request and obtain from the Commission additional time to comply with the requirements stated above, will cause this Order granting the Application to be null and void, and the Application will be dismissed without prejudice. No further order of this Commission is necessary.

DOCKET NO. 2020-163-T – ORDER NO. 20__-
DATE
PAGE 5

7. Under the two-month reporting requirement continued in Order No. 2014-443 (May 21, 2013), the ORS is requested to furnish the name and docket number of the Applicant to the Commission, should the Applicant fail to meet the present Order. If such notification is provided, the docket will be closed.

8. This Order will remain in full force and effect until further order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Justin T. Williams, Chairman

SEAL

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2020-163-T

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, CARL E. BELL, hereby certify that I have, on this 22nd day of October 2020, served the **PROPOSED ORDER for Palmetto Interstate Movers, LLC**, upon the parties listed below by Electronic Mail:

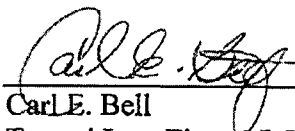
Alexander W. Knowles, Esquire
aknowles@ors.sc.gov
Office of Regulatory Staff
1401 Main Street, Suite 900
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Carri Grube Lybarker, Counsel
SC Department of Consumer Affairs
Post Office Box 5757
Columbia, South Carolina 29250
clybarker@scconsumer.gov

Mr. Dominique Carter
carterd827@gmail.com
Palmetto Interstate Movers, LLC
524 Abberly Village Circle
West Columbia, South Carolina 29169

Jenny R. Pittman, Counsel
jpittman@ors.sc.gov
Office of Regulatory Staff
1401 Main Street, Suite 900
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Roger P. Hall, Asst. Consumer Advocate
SC Department of Consumer Affairs
Post Office Box 5757
Columbia, South Carolina 29250
rhall@scconsumer.gov



Carl E. Bell
Terreni Law Firm, LLC
1508 Lady Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201
Telephone (803) 771-7228
Fax (803) 771-8778
carlbell@Terrenilaw.com

Columbia, South Carolina
October 22, 2020